

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 23-26 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 27-32 have been added. Accordingly, claims 27-32 are currently pending in the application, of which claims 27, 29, 31, and 32 are independent claims.

Applicant respectfully submits that the above amendments do not add new matter to the application and are fully supported by the specification. Support for the added claims may be found at least in Figures 2-12 and at pages 6-8 and 13-15 of the specification.

In view of the above amendments and the following Remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and timely withdrawal of the pending objections and rejections for the reasons discussed below.

Claim Objection

In the Office Action, Claim 26 was objected to as lacking antecedent basis for “the electron” in line 8.

Claim 26 has been canceled, which renders this objection moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection for claim 26.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 23 and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 21 and 22 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,617,798, and claims 24 and 25 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as also being unpatentable over claims 21 and 22. Claims 23-26 have been canceled, which renders these rejections moot.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the double patenting rejections of claims 23-26.

Added Claims

Added claims 27-32 are directed to additional aspects of the invention, which are not disclosed or suggested in the art of record. These claims are allowable for reasons similar to claim 1.

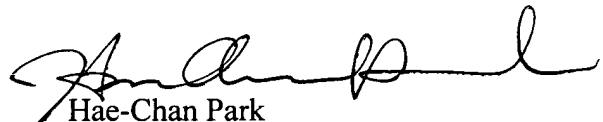
CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that a full and complete response has been made to the pending Office Action and respectfully submits that all of the stated objections and grounds for rejection have been rendered moot. Further, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are allowable and that the application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the number below to expedite prosecution.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 11, 2005

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